



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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Washington State has top-ranked program in the country

Washington State received top honors for its campaign disclosure program, which ranked number one in the nation, according to Grading State Disclosure, a new, comprehensive, comparative study of candidate campaign finance disclosure laws and practices in the 50 states.

The report is online at:

www.campaigndisclosure.org/gradingstate/

Thirty-three state campaign disclosure programs received passing grades. Seventeen state disclosure programs failed the assessment, which was conducted by the Campaign Disclosure Project, a collaboration of the California Voter Foundation, the Center for Governmental Studies and the UCLA School of Law.

The Project seeks to bring greater transparency and accountability to money in state politics and is supported by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

The Campaign Disclosure Project evaluated four areas of campaign finance disclosure: state campaign disclosure laws, which set the disclosure requirements regarding what campaign data must be publicly disclosed; electronic filing programs, which enable states to publish accurate, timely and comprehensive data online; the degree to which the public can access campaign finance information; and the usability of state disclosure web sites.

Of the passing states, only two received grades in the A or B range. The top-ranked state, Washington, received an A- and the second-ranked state, Illinois, received a B.